



For Immediate Release

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Government and Media Relations

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WSP Seeks Witnesses in Homicide Investigation

Clark County- The Washington State Patrol (WSP) is seeking additional witnesses to assist in solving a homicide that occurred along State Route 503 near Northeast 119th Street early Saturday morning.

At approximately 1:45 a.m., on June 9, 2018, WSP troopers responded to a report of a fatal collision near Prairie High School in Clark County. According to a witness, a Toyota Corolla driven by Ariel Romano, appeared to be street racing a sedan southbound on State Route 503 from Northeast 119th Street. Romano's vehicle then appeared to lose control and departed the roadway to the right, driving across the entrance to Prairie High School, striking a tree.

Further investigation revealed at some point during the incident, Romano sustained a gunshot wound. Romano suffered life-threatening injuries and was pronounced deceased at the scene.

A witness told troopers the sedan stopped briefly after the collision before fleeing. Other witnesses told WSP Detectives they saw the sedan later turn westbound onto Northeast 99th Street. Troopers and local officers searched the area and were unable to locate the fleeing sedan.

WSP Detectives are asking anyone with information to contact Detective Jen Ortiz (360-449-7948, Jennifer.Ortiz@wsp.wa.gov), Detective Justin Maier (360-449-7943, Justin.Maier@wsp.wa.gov), or Detective Dave Ortner (360-449-7942, David.Ortner@wsp.wa.gov).

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